



# Doing it for themselves

Brisbane sounds go worldwide and Pearl Jam put out 25 albums on the same day. What next, enquires **Noel Mengel**

SOME of Brisbane's finest singers are featured on a new CD that draws on the influence of music from all parts of the globe.

*Worldly Women* was produced by Donna "Fatima" Miller, who played in the African-inspired Brisbane band Zimbira.

The tracks range from the stunning Celtic ballad sound of Barbara Fordham's *Foolish Woman* to some sizzling Brazilian pop by Anje West and a cracking gospel workout from Leah Cottrell on *Small Blessings*.

Yani, also a member of Zimbira, contributes two tracks, and Miller's *Dreaming of Home* is a song that she started writing on a bus trip from Malawi to Tanzania.

South African-born Miller returned to

Africa in the mid-'90s where she studied music in Zimbabwe, Uganda and Tanzania.

"I had seen all these wonderful women perform and wanted to do an album that was culturally inspired. The brief was that it should be music from around the world but we didn't want just a rehash of traditional things but something that was a fusion."

The album also includes two excellent tracks from Katie Noonan of George, one with a guitar, sax and strings arrangement and the other, *Self in Creation*, featuring traditional instruments such as the kora and shakuhachi.

Miller says: "Katie went in without even meeting the musicians, it hadn't been rehearsed and it was finished in an evening. It was an experiment and the result was such a nice surprise."

The *Worldly Women* line-up launch the CD with a concert on the QPAC forecourt tomorrow night from 8pm.



IT has not been unknown for acts to release two albums on the one day: Guns 'N Roses have done it, for instance.

Pearl Jam topped that this week when they put out 25 of them on the one day. The live albums, all taken from the band's European tour this year, are no doubt intended to put a lid on bootlegging.

The two-CD sets all capture concerts in their entirety and come in a simple bootleg-inspired brown cardboard cover. Five of the albums have been released in Australia, featuring concerts from Cardiff, Verona, Milan, Hamburg and Katowice in Poland.

These were the ones voted for by Australian PJ fans in an online competition run by the band's label, Sony Music. The five include rarities such as versions of The Who's *Baba O'Riley*, Neil Young's *Rockin' in the Free World* and Split Enz's *I Got You*.

The other 20 albums are available through Sony Music's import division.



AFTER their Return of the Living Zed show at Davies Park tomorrow, Brisbane community station Triple Z are cranking up for their 25th anniversary shows at Arena on December 9 and 10.

Regurgitator will be headlining on both nights and among the legendary Bris-bands reforming for the shows are The Riptides, Mystery of Sixes and Pineapples from the Dawn of Time. The station's *Behind the Bananas Curtain* album, featuring some of the pick of 25 years of local music, will be out next month.



WORDLY women ... Yani and Donna Miller